*40% of total SSI advances should be available for units with investment in plant and machinery upto Rs. 5 lakhs. 20% for units with investment between Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 2.5 lakhs and the remaining 40% for other SSI units.

*Collateral free loans limit raised from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh for tiny sector.

*Composite loan limit raised from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh.

Less Loan to Rural Sector

992. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of loans/advances given to the small scale, rural and urban sectors during the last three years under the new Economic reforms;

(b) whether loans given to rural sector are less in proportion to the deposits made by the sector in all the Nationalised banks;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total advances outstanding of all the public sector banks to the small scale sector, rural sector and urban (including semi-urban) sector during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. Crores)

Year ending March	SSI sector	Rural sector	Urban sector
1998	37871	27464	226613
1999	42674	31188	272223
2000	45788	35909	324076

(b) RBI has reported that for the year ending March 2000 deposits of all nationalised banks in rural areas aggregated to Rs. 64,321 crore against this gross credit to rural areas was to the

tune of Rs. 24,203 crore. The credit deposit (CD) ratio in rural areas comes to 37.63%.

(c) The various factors like availability of adequate infrastructural facilities, credit absorption capacity of the area, development of industries, proper marketing facilities, conducive atmosphere for investment, law & order situation in the States, satisfactory recovery position of banks' dues etc. are main factors influencing credit/deposit ratio in the rural areas.

(d) The various steps taken for increasing flow of credit to rural sector *inter alia* include (i) Annual credit plans prepared every year in each District and implementation thereof is monitored by various fora created under Lead Bank Scheme viz. Block Level Bankers' Committee (BLBC), District Consultative Committee (DCC) and State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) at Block, District and State Level respectively and (ii) Appointment of Task Forces in Bihar, West Bengal, U.P., Rajasthan, Kerala and Union Territory of Pondicherry to examine reasons of low credit flow and suggest measures for improving the same. The implementation of recommendations made by these Task Forces is an ongoing process and progress in this regard is being monitored by the concerned SLBCs of the States. (iii) Establishment of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) by National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development.

Postponement of World Bank Projects

993. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank on May, 26 and June, 1998 postponed the consideration of five proposed projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the above projects;